The Dominion Philatelist

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTING.

No. 4. APRIL, 1889. Vol. 1

IF YOU WILL SEND

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	12	" pink	20
	13	" orange	22
	24	" blue	40
1870.	6	" rose	15
	3	" blue	6
		ROULETTED.	
1876.	5	" blue	12
		PERFORATED.	
1887.	½	cent vermillion	1
	1	" green	2
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	3	" brown	5
	5	" blue	8
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ODDS AND ENDS.

BY "ACADIA."

Some C. P. A. members who send in sheets are very careless about the way they fasten their specimens in. I have several times noticed stamps loose when books are opened, and as nearly all members forward exchange books by post as fifth class matter, thus necessitating the ends being left open, it is advisable that more care be taken or trouble will occur in making up the accounts.

Mr. Hooper would have us believe that he and Canadiensis are not one and the same. No use, John.

Some of our Maritime collectors are going in strong for watermarks in the 1868 issue, Canada. Big figures are placed upon some specimens.

Will some one inform us what can be accepted as a watermarked stamp? Is a stamp printed upon paper in which the maker's name appears only once in the sheet really a watermarked stamp?

Just how many lots of stamps of the pence issues were received by the Prince Edward Island Government will probably never be known, but the lot immediately following the series with larger perforation was printed upon a rather coarse wove paper, whose surface appears quite rough after the gum has been removed. Upon comparison with a subsequent lot the difference in the papers is easily seen. What we will call the third lot, is printed upon very smooth, rather greasy paper, very brittle and easily torn or broken, particularly in the case of unused specimens.

How much longer is it going to take some of our members of the C. P. A. to find out that cheap and trashy sheets of torn, soiled or common stamps will not go?

What would the "Philatelic Beacon" do without Mr. Hooper in his dual personality? The editor seems to have pinned his faith to him entirely.

Probably but few collectors are aware that the old stock of P. E. I. stamps, (good remainders) is getting very much reduced. Some values cannot be supplied at all, and full sets are no longer to be had in lots.

The N. S. P. A. deserves credit for the very successful and well conducted sale of stamps which took place last of February. We trust that this, its maiden effort, is only the precursor of many more.

Philately seems to drag terribly in Western Ontario. What is the matter with our Western members? Can they not boom the C. P. A. a bit. There must be dozens of collectors only waiting to have the benefits of the Association made apparent to them.

Mr. A. A. Bartlett, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., a most enthusiastic collector, left for England via New York recently. He expected to visit the Eden Musee while in New York, and no doubt would very much enjoy a look over the magnificent exhibit of stamps now to be seen there. It is also his intention to visit Amsterdam for the purpose of taking in the fine display of stamps that will be made there shortly.

Judging by the numbers of European journals and price lists that reach us, dealers across the water begin to realize that there are lots of good live collectors on this side of the Atlantic. This shows directly one of the many benefits of organization.

Used P. E. I. stamps are certain to advance rapidly in value within the next year or two. The demand for them is much greater than formerly, and stocks in this country are small.

Mr. J. W. Scott's able article upon the re-print question which was read before the Brooklyn Philatelic Club in Feb. and published in the March numbers of the American Philatelist and Philatelic Journal of America should effectually seal the fate of that enemy of every genuine Philatelist. It is to be hoped that the article mentioned will be "re-printed" extensively by all Philatelic publishers who have the real interests of our science at heart. That is about the only variety of the "re-print" that can ever expect to pass current with real lovers of Philately.

Who among you have the 6d. P. E. I., 1860, large perf? This stamp will be found to be very rare and the fortunate possessor of one or more of them should prize them highly.

DOMINION PHILATELIST

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTING.

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DOMINION PHILATELIST, APRIL, 1889.

OUR NEW CATALOGUE.

Ketcheson's Canadian Catalogue, which the Philatelic public have been expecting for some weeks, has made its appearance at last. It consists of 28 pages and a cover, and catalogues 544 varieties of Canadian stamps.

One feature, of interest to collectors, is that every stamp is priced both new and used, and all who wish to have an accurate idea of the value of their Canada stamps will do well to purchase one of these catalogues.

No Canadian collector can afford to be without a copy, as it describes and prices all the Revenue stamps.

This edition is limited to 500 copies, and as more than half are already sold, those who expect to get a copy should order at once.

To members of A. P. A. and C. P. A. we will send this Catalogue on approval, on receiving a promise that they will return same or remit at once. Paper, 25 cents. Cloth, 50 cents.

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THE REPRINT QUESTION.

READ BEFORE THE BROOKLYN PHILATELIC CLUB, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1889, BY J. W. SCOTT.

The most interesting question before stamp collectors of the present day is concerning reprints in our albums, and it really is a difficult problem to decide upon; perhaps with the exception of cut or uncut envelopes, it is about the only subject that has ever divided the ranks of Philatelic amateurs.

First let us understand what a reprint is and also what it is supposed to be.

In supplying small countries, or to speak more correctly, states using but small quantities of stamps, a plate of the desired pattern is prepared, and sufficient stamps printed to last, according to the idea of the authorities, for one or more years. When the stamps are used up a new supply is provided, and if no change in the design is necessary, reprints are made from the old plate. The ordinary collector looks upon one of the new batch as the same old stamp and takes no notice of the slight change in the tint, possibly difference in the texture of the paper, or even if a new watermark has been adopted, or the size of the perforation modified or enlarged. The advanced collector, however, notices all these slight differences and provides spaces for them on the sheets of his album, thus raising the number of stamps in his collection from five to twenty-five thousand. Both systems of collecting satisfy their salaries, and thus fulfil the main object of the pursuit. If it were understood that that every collector had to acquire from six to a dozen stamps of a kind, which it took him years of familiarity with the science to distinguish between, stamp collecting, as a popular hobby, would be a thing of the past. Turning to the single letter rate stamp of a great nation, say our own two cent green label for instance, which has only been in use two years. The demand for this is so enormous that there is a constant reprinting going on, and although it is impossible to print from the same plate two lots or mix two lots of ink to the exact shade; still skillful workmen will come very near the mark, and in the case of the two cent stamp

which has probably been reprinted twenty five times so far, it would be impossible for the most intelligent philatelist to be able to detect every printing, hence he will satisfy himself with a certain number of the most distinct examples to which he is always prepared to add specimens of any old or new printings, which he may detect.

These however, do not belong to the reprints which are so vehemently objected to by many young collectors, who doubtless think of the term reprint as synonymous with counterfeit, which delusion has been artfully foisted upon them by designing parties.

In many cases after a stamp becomes obsolete the authorities reprint it for various reasons, which may be enumerated as follows:

First,—For public use, example, 1c., olive, 1884, Belgium, reprinted in 1888 in the original color, "to use up a quantity of ink remaining in the office." See American Journal of Pilately, vol. II, page 29.

Second,—A limited number to oblige some influential personage. Example 1d. English die II, reprinted in black in 1864. See the Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain, by F. A. Philbrick and N. A. S. Westoby, page 82.

Third,—In quantity to oblige collectors, sold at face value and good for postage. Example 1861-70 issue United States reprinted in 1865. See circular of U. S. Third Assistant Postmaster-General, 27th March, 1875.

Fourth,—In quantity for collectors, sold at face value, but not good for postage. Example 1857-60 issue United States reprinted in 1875. See circular of U. S. Third Assistant Postmaster-General, 27th March, 1875.

Fifth,—Reprinted in quantity for cash consideration from some stamp dealer. Example, Heligoland issues.

Sixth,—Surreptitiously reprinted by the manufacturer or his workmen. Example, Transvaal, 1877.

Seventh, — Reprinted, by authority, from cancelled plates. Example, Van Dieman's Land, 1853.

Eighth,—Reprints of stamps prepared for but never in actual use. Example, Austrian Italy, 2, 3 and 15 S., 1861.

Ninth,—Reprint of stamps long out of use, in various colors, and sold as proofs. Example, New York 5c, in green, rose, &c.

All of the above quoted stamps are reprints made from original plates after they had once been discarded by their respective governments. Yet the most superficial observer must see at a glance that there is a vast difference in their philatelic and actual value, some being perfectly legitimate government issues while others are worthless rubbish.

The great stumbling block in the way of inexperienced collectors is lack of knowledge concerning the various stocks of remainders which have been skillfully mixed up with the reprint question by envious or dishonest dealers, as will be shown later on. The absorption of a number of small States into an Empire or powerful kingdom, necessitated the consolidation of the various post offices under the general administration, with the same series of stamps for the whole. This would in all cases leave a large quantity of stamps on hand, which by the confederation become useless for postal purposes. There remained but three courses to pursue in regard to the old stock. (1) To destroy all remaining stamps, (2) To surcharge with name or emblem of new government (Brunswick envelopes with stamp over and surcharged Nord Deutscher Postbeziok, of Germany.) (3) To use up throughout the country, as for example the stamps of Sardinia were used in the new kingdom of Italy. (4) To sell to stamp dealers for what they would realize. It is needless to say that the latter alternative is the most sensible plan and the one usually employed by the postal authorities, but we regret to add that only too frequently, we find the unsuccessful bidders for the lot, industriously circulating the story that the stamps put on the market are reprints, and not remainders. Color is sometimes given to this story, by some values happening to be of a slightly different tint from the used specimens usually found. This may easily be accounted for by the fact, that that particular printing had but a short currency, therefore, postmarked stamps are hard to find.

We have now got the facts with sufficient clearness for every collector to be

able to determine for himself what stamps to collect, nevertheless I purpose to give briefly my individual views on the subject.

Classes 6, 7, 8 and 9 should not be collected under any circumstances, while all others can be taken by persons forming entirely unused collections.

No reputable dealer would sell a reprint as an original, any more than he would sell a vermilion for an orange Newfoundland, although to a vast majority of collectors it would not make the slightest difference which shade they got, or would an honest man sell a stamp with the perforation cut off for an unperforated variety, or an engraved for a telegraphed stamp, or in a word practice any deception. Personally I only collect cancelled stamps.

Before closing I will call your attention to the U. S. reprint of the blue on rose carriers, stamps of 1851. Before the reprints were made this was one of the rarest stamps and would always command the highest price then paid for any postal, and by this time would certainly sell for $300.00. Unfortunately, when it was decided to reprint the U. S. postal issues, a quantity of paper originally made for this stamp in 1851 was found in the department, and was accordingly used for the reimpression. The result is that it is utterly impossible to distinguish between unused originals and the reimpressions which can now be purchased for ten cents each; and when a well authenticated original is found, $25.00 is about all it will sell for. This one instance is sufficient to show the morality of the practice of reprinting stamps, and every influence should be brought to bear to prevent governments or individuals from perpetrating this great wrong on stamp collectors. It may be interesting to know that coin collectors had sufficient influence to get a law passed, providing that every die used in stamping money should be destroyed at the end of the year whose date it bore, as a positive prevention against restriking, and I certainly think that there are enough philatelists enrolled in the various societies that dot our land from Maine to California, to procure some similar legislation to protect stamp collectors.

C. P. A. AFFAIRS.

To the Editor Dominion Philatelist.

DEAR SIR.—I notice in your last number you call the attention of the Executive Committee to Article iv., Section 4, of the Constitution, and I cannot help thinking you have done so in time.

I would be obliged to Mr. Hooper, (the Chairman), or other members of the said committeee, if they would give us an explanation why they took the appointment of Librarian into their own hands. The constitution says distinctly that the President shall temporarily fill the office left vacant.

What has President Hechler been doing? Why did he allow the appointment to be made? He should have made it—not the Executive.

Remember, it is not to Mr. Parker I am referring; he is a good man, and will make a most efficient officer, but I strongly protest against so bold a violation of the constitution.

Yours,

MEMBER OF C.P.A.

[This is only one of several letters we have received, all protesting against the action of the Ex. Committee.—ED. PHIL.]

H. F. Ketcheson, Esq.,

DEAR SIR,—Noticing in the March number of your paper, THE DOMINION PHILATELIST, a paragraph alluding to the Executive Committee of the C. P. A., in which you state that you are informed that they have overstepped their authority, we, the Executive Committee, beg to state that such is not the case, as the only officer appointed since the time we have been in office has been Mr. Parker, to the office of Librarian, and he was appointed by the President, subject only to our recommendation.

Therefore, you will please correct the impression given by said paragraph, and also oblige us by giving us the name of your informant.

Care should be taken in publishing items regarding the doings of officers of

the C. P. A., to seee that they are perfectly authentic.

Signed,

F. C. KAVE.
JNO. R. HOOPER.
CLEO. C. MORENCY.

[The above letter was received some days ago by the editor of this journal, and speaks for itself.

The Ex. Committee are beginning to see that they have done wrong, and evidently want to let themselves down as lightly as possible. We cannot, and will not withdraw the obnoxious paragraph, as we believe it to be true. The information was received from a report of said committee, signed by them, and published in the official organ, February No., and which distinctly states that said committee appointed Mr. Parker to the office of Librarian. We also notice, among other things, that they have assumed the title of "Executive Board." Will the Chairman of some of the members kindly inform us by what article in the constitution they are permitted to be known by that cognomen?

Remember, that we do not object to Mr. Parker, but on the contrary know he will make a an efficient officer; neither have we any ill-will againt any member of the Ex. Com., but we cannot allow the constitution to be violated without protesting against it.—ED. PHILATELIST.]

—The Barrie branch is flourishing. Every member is taking great interest in the work, according to the last report. The members are well pleased with the manner in which Supt. Grenny and Manager Rogerson have arranged for so prompt a service with regard to exchange books.

—Members of the C. P. A. are wondering when the report of the committee to select a suitable design for a Badge for the Association will be made. Keep cool, friends. The report is now in the hands of the President. You will soon hear about it.

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JOSEPH DUCOT,

POSTE SALINIERES, BORDEAUX, FRANCE.

PROPOSAL.—Every person who will send me 2000 Postage Stamps or Stamps of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, will receive by return of post a first-class silver watch.

For 4,500 postage stamps from the different countries mentioned above, I promise a handsome gold ladies' watch.

I am willing to send the amount of the above mentioned watches in cash if desired.

For further information please address as above.